

Message Text

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53

ACTION AID-59

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 IO-13 AGR-20 PC-15 CIAE-00 USIA-15

ACDA-19 INT-08 COME-00 FDRE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01

DRC-01 /172 W

----- 025301

P R 061650Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1490

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY DAKAR

USCINCEUR

JCS

REDICOM

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NOUAKCHOTT 795

AFDROUGHT

OUAGADOUGOU FOR SPENCER

EO 11652: NA

SUBJECT: EMERGENCY AIRLIFT

REF: A. STATE 176766, B. NOUAKCHOTT 793 (NOTAL), C. NOUAKCHOTT
757 AND 783

ACTION REQUESTED: CONCUR PER REFTTEL A, PARA ONE B WE
INVESTIGATE POSSIBILITIES DIRECT C-130 EMERGENCY AIRLIFT
NOUAKCHOTT-NEMA. IF THIS PROVES IMPOSSIBLE WE (OR FAO?)
SHOULD IN ANY EVENT COMMIT ONE C-130 FOR NOUAKCHOTT-AIOUN,
NOUAKCHOTT-KIFFA, OR NOUAKCHOTT-KAEDI RUN AS NECESSARY WITH
UNDERSTANDING GIRM WILL ARRANGE STEPPED-UP OVERLAND TRANSPORT
INTO NEMA AND FIRST REGION. (FYI KIFFA-NEMA AND AIOUN-
NEMA ROADS REMAIN OPEN. ONE ROAD INTO KAEDI PRESENTLY OPEN,
BUT SUBJECT FREQUENT CLOSURES THROUGHOUT RAINY SEASON.

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END FYI) ARRIVAL C-130 SHOULD BE TIMED COINCIDE WITH LAST

FEW DAYS FRG-GOS AIRLIFT (I.E. SOMETIME BETWEEN SEPTEMBER 13 AND 20) IN ORDER GIVE FLIGHT CREWS OPPORTUNITY DEBRIEF SPANISH AND GERMAN PILOTS AND THEREAFTER CONTINUE UNINTERRUPTED EMERGENCY AIRLIFT OPS. (REFTELS C)

1. DISCUSSED OPTIONS PARA ONE REFTEL A TODAY WITH MINHEALTH, GIRM DROUGHT RELIEF COORDINATOR. HE WOULD AGREE ACCEPT TWO OR THREE DC-3S CHARTERED BY USG AIRLIFT EMERGENCY GRAINS, MEDICINES NOUAKCHOTT-NEMA OR AIOUN-NEMA, BUT FEARS THAT A) LIMITED FUEL SUPPLIES AT AIOUN WOULD QUICKLY BECOME EXHAUSTED, AND B) THAT DC-3 LOAD CAPACITY TOO SMALL MEET PRESSING NEEDS FIRST REGION. (FYI. TWO SPANISH DC-3S MUST REFUEL AT AIOUN ON RETURN LEG NOUAKCHOTT-NEMA-NOUAKCHOTT AFTER DELIVERY TWO-TON LOAD EACH. END FYI) MINISTER WOULD PREFER OBTAIN ONE C-130 TRANSPORT MAXIMUM LOAD DIRECT NOUAKCHOTT-NEMA. IF THIS PROVES IMPOSSIBLE, HE SUGGESTS USE C-130 AIRLIFT GRAIN TO AIOUN OR KIFFA, AND THENCE BY TRUCK TO NEMA. MINISTER HAS ALREADY ASSIGNED FIVE TEN-TON TRUCKS FOR AIOUN-NEMA SHUTTLE STOCKS BUILT UP AT AIOUN BY FRG AIRLIFT. HE WILL ASSIGN MORE TRUCKS AS NECESSARY.

2. MINISTER SAID GIRM WOULD WELCOME LOW OVERFLIGHT OR TEST LANDINGS US C-130 FROM MALI AT NEMA, KIFFA, KAEDI OR AIOUN. FOR BAMAKO: NEED 24 HOUR NOTICE IN ORDER OBTAIN FORMAL OVERFLIGHT/LANDING CLEARANCES.

3. RE GRAIN STOCKS: GIRM HAS ON HAND NOUAKCHOTT SOME 9000 MT GRAIN, WITH EXPECTATION GET 3000 MORE TONS BEFORE END SEPTEMBER. STOCKS AT ROSSO STILL ABOUT 4000 MT, LESS 1200 MT EARMARKED FOR RIVER SHIPMENT TO KAEDI. ACCORDING TO ASECNA, LATERITE AIRSTRIP AT ROSSO ONLY SLIGHTLY LONGER THAN THAT AT NEMA. IN LIGHT THIS FACT, AND BECAUSE LARGEST GRAIN STOCKS AND BEST CARGO HANDLING FACILITIES LOCATED NOUAKCHOTT, RECOMMEND WE NOT RPT NOT CONSIDER AIRLIFT FROM ROSSO. MORE-OVER THERE NO RPT NO FUEL STOCKS AT ROSSO. GIRM CAN PROVIDE ADEQUATE JET FUEL OR AVGAS ONLY AT NOUAKCHOTT.

4. RE SUGGESTION WE SUPPORT GIRM AIR FORCE EMERGENCY AIRLIFT; GIRM HAS HAD NO RPT NO OPERATIONAL AIR FORCE SINCE DEPARTURE FRENCH MILITARY ASSISTANCE TEAM EARLIER THIS YEAR FOLLOWING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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GIRM RENOUNCIATION FRANCO-MAURITANIAN DEFENSE ACCORDS.

5. MINHEALTH DEPARTS FOR OUAGADOUGOU DROUGHT MEETING SEPTEMBER 7. SUGGEST FERMINO SPENCER MAY WISH DISCUSS AIRLIFT QUESTIONS WITH HIM WHEN HE ARRIVES.

DECON 6/30/74.
SHURTLEFF

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